

TAFT BOOM GROWS

Legislators See President and Shout for Secretary.

OPPOSITION SHOWN TO HUGHES

Administration Likely to Be Against New York Governor's Nomination for Chief Executive—Roosevelt Believed to Be Awaiting Proper Moment to Launch His Views.

There were indications at the White House yesterday that President Roosevelt is beginning to abandon the reticence about his view of the third term movement, and is willing to relieve the anxiety of the friends of acknowledged candidates.

One of the indications was that after Senator Long, of Kansas, had a talk with Mr. Roosevelt he announced that his State was for Taft, and would send a solid delegation for him to the next national convention. Another indication was that Representative Kennedy, of Ohio, who was sent to Congress from the old McKinley district, came out of the President's office shouting for Taft and proclaiming that the country was wild for him.

The significance of Senator Long's statement is found in two circumstances. Gov. Hoch, of Senator Long's State, made the statement here that Kansas was for President Roosevelt for a third time, and would run rough-shod over any obstacle put in the way of his nomination.

There was a little exaggeration probably about the governor's enthusiastic announcement, but Mr. Long was aware that it had some grains of truth in it. Mr. Long is a discreet politician, and it is apparent that he would not have so emphatically repudiated any state which no doubt in his mind had not been confident that Mr. Roosevelt would not accept another nomination.

A Significant Statement.

The other circumstance which makes Mr. Long's statement significant involves a little ancient history. At one time last year prominent Kansas Republicans were extremely anxious to find out how Mr. Long stood with reference to the next Republican Presidential nomination, and they indicated strongly to Mr. Long that an answer at the earliest possible date would be gratefully received, and that upon the character of the answer might depend Mr. Long's chances for further political preferment.

Mr. Long let no grass grow under his feet in getting to the White House at that time, and when he came away there was no doubt in his mind as to whether he was for Roosevelt or Taft, the two favorites among the Republicans of his State for the next Presidential nomination in the order named.

The Kansas Senator was for Taft, and has been for that ever since, and when he left the White House yesterday he was for Taft more than ever in spite of his knowledge of what Gov. Hoch had said the day before.

President Roosevelt and Senator Long are great friends. In the fight in the Senate over the railway-rate bill, Mr. Long was one of the President's most ardent supporters, and has been regarded by the administration as a consistent and enthusiastic advocate of the Roosevelt policies. He would be one of the first to know how the President stood on the third-term proposition.

But beyond all this it is noteworthy that since the President's return to Washington on Wednesday there has

been a marked feeling of confidence among prominent Republicans here that Mr. Roosevelt would adhere to the promise which he gave to the country on the night of election in November, 1904, that he would not again be a candidate for the office which he now holds.

It is intimated broadly that the President may soon set at rest all doubt as to whether he will adhere to that promise, and coupled with this is the equally broad intimation that he would repeat his election-night announcement in terms just as emphatic and unequivocal.

The expectation in political circles is that the opportunity which will be seized by the President as the proper one for abandoning his present attitude of reticence on the subject will be the action of some Republican State convention in instructing its delegates to the national convention to vote for Mr. Roosevelt's nomination.

"That the Roosevelt administration looks with apprehension upon the growth of the movement for the nomination of Gov. Hughes for the Presidency is becoming pretty well understood in Republican circles. The nomination of Gov. Hughes is something that the administration does not want, not only because the President prefers Mr. Taft, but for other reasons. The opinion here is that the President's reticence concerning the third-term movement comes from an intention to keep the supporters of Presidential candidates other than Mr. Taft in an uncertain state of mind as to what Mr. Roosevelt intends to do."

HONORS TO WASHINGTONIANS

Henry R. Evans and J. L. Shepherd Given Higher Degree.

Commander Richardson Presides at Ceremonies—President to Receive Delegates.

Henry C. Alverson, of Iowa; Charles P. Buck, of Louisiana, and H. C. Plunkley, of North Dakota, were signally honored by the supreme council, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Masons for the Southern Jurisdiction, when that body yesterday afternoon elected them as active inspectors general for their respective States, and consequently as members of the Supreme Council, the governing body of the entire Southern jurisdiction.

The election of these three new members completes the personnel of the council. The entire afternoon was consumed in executive session over the election. The election of active members is regarded as among the most important business of the biennial session of the council.

Two more Washingtonians were also signally honored yesterday. At the executive session of the morning, Henry Ridgely Evans, of the United States Bureau of Education, was elected to the thirty-third degree, honorary inspector general, and James L. Shepherd, thirty-second degree, knight commander of the court of honor. This is also considered a compliment for the men selected. Mr. Shepherd's name was the only one added to the list of knights commander of the court of honor, but John R. Oliver, of Iowa, and M. E. Grant, of Mississippi, were named with Mr. Evans as honorary knights commander.

Both Washington men are in the government employ, and are well known in this city. Mr. Evans is a student of Masonic antiquities and psychology, and is the author of several works on the occult.

Mr. Shepherd has been curator of the museum in the House of the Temple for a number of years, and his work there has been greatly appreciated. He arranged the museum as it stands to-day. He is a member of all the local bodies, but has retained his Blue Lodge connection in his native city, Indianapolis. He was born there on St. Valentine's day, 1854, and came to this city when quite a young man. He is a student of Masonic curiosities, and is great chief of records of the Great Council of the Improved Order of Red Men. By a peculiar coincidence, both men are old newspaper men, the early part of their lives having been spent as reporters.

Sovereign Grand Commander Richardson and his supporters of the active knights commander last night elected the thirty-third degree on all those elected Thursday and yesterday, or, at least, all of those in the city. The ceremony was a most imposing one. Thirty-four of the 100 nominated were initiated at the House of the Temple, at 433 Third street, northwest. The others will have their degrees conferred in their respective States. The entire active membership participated in the ceremony, and a great number of the honorary members were present.

It is expected that the Supreme Council will conclude its sessions this morning. At noon its membership will be received by the President at the White House, and in the afternoon the biennial visitation to the grave of Albert Pike will be made.

Y. M. C. A. TO CELEBRATE. Commissioner Macfarland to Speak at Fifty-Fifth Anniversary.

The Washington Young Men's Christian Association will commemorate its fifty-fifth anniversary to-morrow afternoon with an excellent service. Contrary to custom, this Sunday meeting will be open to the public, both men and women, and all the friends of the association are invited to be present.

At 3 o'clock the association orchestra will render some selections in the lobby, while the guests are gathering. At 3:30 the meeting will be adjourned to the gymnasium hall, where Rev. Dr. J. W. R. Sunwalt, presiding elder of the Washington district of the Baltimore conference, will deliver an address on "He, Myself, and Another."

At the conclusion of his talk, General Secretary Edward W. Hearne will present a brief summary of the work accomplished by the association during the past year. Mrs. Nellie Wilson Shier-Chief, soprano soloist, will sing several selections during this service.

At the same time there will be something going on for the members of the boys' department of the association. The National Standard Club will give a concert in the assembly room at 3 o'clock, and this will be followed by an address by Commissioner H. B. F. Macfarland. This is the first of a series of Sunday afternoon meetings for the older boys.

RECOMMEND NEW SCHOOL

Commissioner Macfarland has suggested that the South Washington Citizens' Association be informed that their estimates have been requested in their commitments for the District an appropriation for a new structure to take the place of the old Potomac School building. In addition to this the following improvements have been proposed for the Southwest section of the city in the estimates of the Commissioner:

The paving of K street, between Fourth and Sixth streets, \$5,500; L street, between Fourth and Sixth streets, \$10,000; Tenth street, between D and G streets, \$10,000; Eighth street, between H and Water streets, \$5,500. Mr. Macfarland's suggestion is made in answer to letters from the president of the association calling attention to the condition of the old Potomac School, and other street repairs needed.

CABINET IN MEETING

Naval Matters Occupy First Session Since June.

ESTIMATES WILL BE HIGH

More Money Will Be Needed for the Maintenance of Navy than Last Year, When \$103,000,000 Was Appropriated—New Ships Not Discussed—Want Base on Pacific.

Secretary of the Navy Metcalf held the center of the stage at the regular meeting of the Cabinet yesterday. It was the first Cabinet session since President Roosevelt went to Oyster Bay, in June, and, while there were many other things to talk over, the interest in naval affairs, with particular reference to contemplated increases in the fleet and the personnel, was so great, that the meeting was taken up in listening to an explanation from Mr. Metcalf of the estimates of appropriations which were regarded as necessary for the conduct of the naval establishment in the fiscal year to begin on July 1, 1908.

The estimates of appropriations provide for a considerable increase over the aggregate of the estimates for the current fiscal year, which were greatly in excess of the total amount allowed by Congress. Just how much will be asked for by Secretary Metcalf has not been made known, but the principal items of increase are for work under the Bureau of Ordnance, Yards and Docks, and Equipment, and for the pay of enlisted men.

The Navy Department will ask Congress to increase the present enlisted strength by 2,000, so that enough men will be available for the war ships which will be completed soon, and about \$500,000 in addition to the amount asked for last year will be requested to pay them. More guns, more dry docks, and provision for the new fire-control system on battle ships and armored cruisers will help swell the estimates. Last year the estimates were \$115,440,000, but Congress cut this total down to \$102,917,070.

No Reference to Fleet.

The estimates submitted to the President and the Cabinet by Secretary Metcalf did not include provision for any increase in the fleet. No decision has been reached by the President and the Secretary of the Navy as to the number and the character of the vessels for the construction of which Congress will be asked to appropriate. The desire of the administration is to obtain authority to make a substantial increase in the number of line-of-battle ships, but consideration of the advisability of asking for more than Congress would be willing probably to allow has resulted in a decision to give longer thought to the subject.

Varying opinions as to the number of battle ships should be included in the recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy have been expressed by those immediately concerned, who include President Roosevelt, Secretary Metcalf, the members of the general board of the navy, and high ranking naval officers. Some are in favor of asking for two battle ships and others for three.

In the course of the discussion at the Cabinet meeting, some attention was devoted to the subject of providing more adequate docking facilities for large vessels of war at places on the Pacific Coast. This subject has become prominent in official circles on account of the decision to send the battle-ship fleet to the Pacific, and the knowledge that the present docking facilities are wholly insufficient. San Diego, where the navy has a coaling station, was regarded as the place for the establishment of another large naval base, but no attempt to settle the matter was made.

PRESBYTERIANS IN SESSION.

Virginia Synod Had Only Routine Business Before It.

Charlottesville, Va., Oct. 25.—The session of the Virginia Presbyterian Synod to-day was principally given over to preliminary organization. It is probable that the entire meeting of the synod will be taken up with work of a routine nature, and it is thought that it will have completed practically all of its business by to-morrow night.

This afternoon the delegates were entertained by ex-Governor McCorkle at his home, "Sunrise," and in the evening a short session of the conference was held, at which Dr. Russell Cecil, of Richmond, presided.

At 11 o'clock to-morrow morning Rev. S. L. Morris will address the congregation in the interest of home missions. He will be followed at 11:30 by Rev. S. A. D. P. Gilmore, W. W. Moore, and others in the interest of the Union Theological Seminary. Rev. J. E. Booker will speak on the evangelistic work of the synod. The "Observance of the Sabbath by railroads" will be discussed by R. H. Fleming, of Virginia; J. M. Payne, J. J. Davis, George E. Price, and C. W. Campbell, of West Virginia.

Woman's Complaint Answered.

The application of Arthur A. Alexander, attorney for Mary L. Alexander, for information as to whether the stable being erected in the rear of 11% New Hampshire avenue northwest, is a private or public stable, and whether it is not in conflict with the regulations, has been returned with the information that the permit was issued for a private stable, and that the building does not conflict with the regulations.

CREDIT FOR ALL WASHINGTON.

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CAPT. BARRY EXONERATED.

Commander Not Responsible for Grounding of Kentucky.

The report of the board of inquiry appointed to investigate the circumstances of the grounding of the battle ship Kentucky near Lambert's Point a few weeks ago has completely exonerated Capt. Edward B. Barry, commander of the ship, from any responsibility for the accident.

The board reported that the situation was as reported in press dispatches at the time of the occurrence, the vessel having been crowded out of her course by the other craft anchored in the harbor. The board also found that the conditions of wind and tide were particularly unfavorable.

FAVORS ELASTIC CURRENCY.

Senator Elkins Says Congress Must Aid the Country.

Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia, who is in Washington, says a new currency bill will be introduced at the next session of Congress to cure the evils from which the financial world is suffering.

"We need more and more elastic currency," said Mr. Elkins, "and the trouble is that the business of the country has increased faster than the supply of money."

LAYMEN ARE FORMING UNION

Protestant Church Federation Hold an Important Meeting.

Commissioner Macfarland Presides at Session Held at Y. M. C. A. Building Last Night.

A Federation of Laymen in the Protestant churches of the District of Columbia, which was tentatively organized last May, and has since been developing quietly into an effective union of the lay members of the Protestant churches, held its first meeting last evening in the assembly room of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Commissioner Macfarland presided, and Prof. C. S. Clark presented the report for the committee appointed in May to investigate the possibilities of some federative organization of church forces. The report, which was signed by Admiral Mordant T. Endicott, U. S. N.; Mr. Charles S. Bradley, Mr. C. S. Clark, Mr. William W. Everett, Mr. Charles F. Nesbit, Mr. Paul E. Sieman, and Mr. H. W. Arnold, provided that the object shall be to promote social and civic righteousness; that laymen of the Protestant churches of the District shall be eligible to membership; that its government shall be in the hands of a council consisting of two representatives from each church, elected or chosen by the laymen of the church; that an executive committee of seven shall be chosen by the council.

Following the adoption of the report, a nominating committee, consisting of Mr. W. Everett, Mr. Myron J. Jones, and Mr. C. W. Dent, was appointed to name temporary officers pending the adoption of a constitution. The election of Commissioner Macfarland as temporary president, and of Mr. H. W. Arnold as temporary secretary, followed. A committee to draft a constitution was named as follows: Admiral M. T. Endicott, U. S. N., chairman; Mr. Paul E. Sieman, Mr. E. W. Hearne, Mr. Charles F. Nesbit, and Mr. W. F. Collins.

After the business session, the address of the evening was delivered by Rev. Dr. Caspar W. Hiatt, of Cleveland, who dwelt upon the fundamental truths of Christianity as demonstrated by such organizations as the Young Men's Christian Association.

About 150 lay members and ministers, who were guests of the new organization, were invited for the evening, attended the meeting.

REFUSED TO AID SOUTHERN BANK

Continued from Page One.

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reiterated his charges with passionate insistence until, at last, he lost control of himself and shouted: "Von Moltke maintained his position in the army by concealing the truth about himself in connection with a group of courtiers who indulged in criminal practices."

"These matters have been an open secret for years. They are common talk in Berlin. Why," he exclaimed, "his voice raising to a shriek, 'the very sparrows chattered of them from the house-tops. If I am pressed I will bring members of ruling houses, who will ask astonished: 'Is it possible these things are contested?'"

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Nearly two hours were occupied with the testimony of Dr. Hirschfeld, a well-known writer on abnormal proclivities. He gave his reasons for believing that Count von Moltke had abnormal inclinations, undoubtedly through uncontrollable hereditary causes, of which he himself was not aware. Further witnesses were ready, but the presiding judge announced that enough testimony had been given to enable the court to form an opinion, and he ordered counsel to begin their closing pleas to-morrow.

It is probable a verdict will then be given. Harden is already acquitted before the bar of popular opinion, as the enthusiastic demonstrations over him in the streets evidence. There is doubt, however, whether he has succeeded in establishing a definite case, and conservative judgment is that there will be a technical conviction and mild punishment.

ENTERTAINS IN NEW WILLARD.

Dr. Poliss, German Meteorologist, Has Distinguished Guests.

Dr. Poliss, director of the Meteorological Observatory of Achen, who is in this country studying the work of the United States Weather Bureau on behalf of the German government, entertained last night at the New Willard.

The guests were: A. Lawrence Rotch, of Boston; Capt. Hilderbrand, one of the German meteorologists in the recent international balloon race; Messrs. von Radowitz and von Schubert, of the German Embassy; Prof. Willis Moore, chief of the Weather Bureau; Profs. Cleveland Abbe, C. F. Garriott, Alexander Meadell, and A. J. Henry, of the Weather Bureau; and Messrs. E. B. Calvert, Fitzhugh Talmann, and H. L. Heiskell.

TAUNTS VON MOLTKE

Count Driven by Harden to Defend His Actions.

JUDGE APPEALS FOR CALMNESS

Intense Excitement Prevails in Berlin's Sensational Libel Case, Involving Nobles of German Empire. Herr Harden Loses Self-control and Shouts His Accusations.

Berlin, Oct. 25.—When the trial of Count Kuno von Moltke's defamation suit against Maximilian Harden was resumed to-day, Prince von Eulenburg, whose medical certificate of illness the court refused yesterday to accept, did not appear, counsel explaining that the prince's physician had refused to allow him to leave his bed.

Herr Bernstein, Harden's counsel, intimated that the prince's absence would not avail him. Prince von Bismarck, said Bernstein, had assailed him in the most severe language, and Bismarck knew his man.

Counsel on the other side remarked: "The prince is in such a state that a stroke may kill him at any moment. Will you take this responsibility, knowing that he may fall dead?"

The court decided that the unnamed army officer who testified yesterday to his belief in Eulenburg's participation in orgies in Count Lynar's house should, accompanied by police, proceed unofficially to Eulenburg's house and see whether he could identify him as having been present at the orgies.

The name of the officer who was sent to identify von Eulenburg is Vollart. He returned from Eulenburg's house and stated to the court that Eulenburg had refused to admit him. Bernstein, Harden's counsel, asked von Moltke if he would dare to deny that his resignation of the post of military commandant of Berlin was connected with the resignations of von Hohenau, Eulenburg, and Lynar.

Invokes Court's Remembrance.

Von Moltke, after a pause, arose to his full height, extremely pale, and said: "It was no longer possible to hold the post of aid-de-camp of the Emperor while I lay under the libels which Harden had published about me." He asked the court to remember, when it was punishing Harden, that "he finished my career and cost me my uniform."

Von Moltke added: "Of these criminal matters I know nothing." He said his friendship for Eulenburg was based upon their common artistic temperament. Harden was the object of a popular demonstration during the luncheon recess.

Harden Reiterates Charges.

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Nearly two hours were occupied with the testimony of Dr. Hirschfeld, a well-known writer on abnormal proclivities. He gave his reasons for believing that Count von Moltke had abnormal inclinations, undoubtedly through uncontrollable hereditary causes, of which he himself was not aware. Further witnesses were ready, but the presiding judge announced that enough testimony had been given to enable the court to form an opinion, and he ordered counsel to begin their closing pleas to-morrow.

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\$5.98.



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